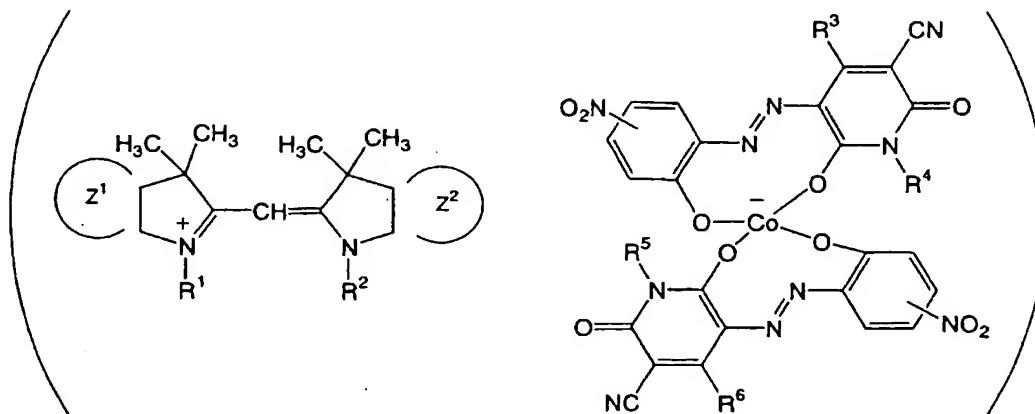


CLAIMS

1. A cyanine dye which is represented by General Formula 1 and exhibits a major absorption maximum at a wavelength longer than 400 nm in a solution.

General Formula 1:



(In General Formula 1, Z¹ and Z² mean monocyclic or condensed heterocyclic aromatic rings which are the same or different each other. R¹ to R⁶ independently denote aliphatic hydrocarbon group and their aliphatic hydrocarbon groups may bear a substituent.)